

Docket No.: 1454.1118

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Horst MUELLER

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Confirmation No.

Filed:

Examiner:

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR TRANSMITTING DATA

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

Please DELETE the Abstract in its entirety and substitute the attached new Abstract.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please REPLACE the specification in its entirety with the Substitute Specification attached.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please CANCEL claims 1-13 without prejudice or disclaimer and ADD new claims 14-26 in accordance with the following:

14. (NEW) A system for inserting Ethernet signals in an STM-N frame of synchronous digital hierarchy, comprising:

a decoder to receive an Ethernet signal and to perform data rate reduction of the Ethernet signal in generating a decoded output;

a first multiplexer, coupled to said decoder, to form data words from the decoded output and associated monitoring information;

*Pre A*  
*3-19-02*  
*W. Little*

FOOT: 20000000

*Sub 1*